

# MAINE LESBIAN FEMINIST

Grey day...and cold. Jennifer & I are typing and taping (Meg Christian) this morning here in Surry...We are playing the newsletter by ear, trusting that it will reach its readers in a somewhat organized & readable fashion. The Muses hover over us...

## MINUTES to POLITICAL TASK FORCE MEETING

25 September 1977

Skowhegan

Meeting called to order and chaired by Dolores Cote.

### I. Reports from local groups

- A. Portland--expressed interest in establishing a + lesbian presence & announced plans for a lesbian resource center to that end.
- B. Bath-Brunswick--Recommended that an on-going CR group be started & meet monthly @ MLF meetings. Marjorie Meyer volunteered to facilitate the group. Her vision of the group will be described in the next Newsletter.
- C. Bangor-Bar Harbor--Discussed need for lesbian presence in existing organizations such as NOW & campus organizations. Expressed need for PTF to be well-informed re current lesbian issues. Discussed starting a library which would include books, periodicals & record collection available to all MLF members. Requested \$30 from general MLF membership for subscriptions to feminist periodicals. Discussed need for PTF philosophy, structure & tactics to be developed on state level.

### II. Philosophy/Structure MLF discussion

- A. Decided to hold 2-day meeting of PTF on Nov. 12-13 in Bar Harbor at College of the Atlantic (preceding gen. 1 MLF meeting which will be Sun. 13 Nov @ COA). Input of regional groups vital to success of this meeting. Agenda for this meeting will be discussed @ Oct. MLF meeting.

### III. IWY Conference

Nan & Kate, the 2 delegates to nat'l IWY in Houston asked PTF for support & assistance in working out strategy for dealing with the conference. Considerable discussion was given to the merits of voicing strong lesbian support for certain issues within the conference structure. Idea of separating from the conference & caucusing with other lesbians was mentioned. Varying degrees of scepticism re IWY were expressed. Although no strategy was developed, there was a general agreement that Kate & Nan should not burn themselves out in frustrating situations, but rather remain open to any + ideas which can be brought back to MLF..



IV. Wendy Ashley's letter

Mentioned a meeting for community leaders in Portland area to make suggestions to Portland radio stations about how they can best meet the needs of of the community in their programs. To be held Sept 30 @ Casco Bank Building. Suggestions for programming: women's music, more women DJ's, announcements of local women's events, etc. Decided to suggest that stations hire a lesbian to do a weekly program.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

At the 25 October meeting there will be a scheduled time for a consciousness raising group. This group will begin by looking @ personal experience & hopefully go on from there to look @ the literature so that feminism can be understood both emotionally as well as intellectually.

--Marjorie Meyer

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

HEY, I need to learn to do my own auto mechanic work, & I'm sure there are others of you out there eager to learn, too. Would some of you women experienced in auto work be up to giving either one-shot or on-going classes @ the MLF meetings?

at 2011 you--Paige Bridgens

\*\*\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*\*\*

Wise Women Enterprises, Inc./

Urbana Records of Stonington, Maine

is proud to announce the release of

DEBUTANTE, Willie Tyson's 1st album on the o x o x o x o Urbana label.

DEBUTANTE CLEARLY DEFINES A woman's perspective in blues, country-folk & jazz with Willie's unique, down-home style. The biting sarcasm & joyous wit of her lyrics speak of women's pride & women's pain.

The record can be obtained through Nicki Mickerson, P.O. Box 127

Stonington, Me. 04681,

Record Warehouse on the main drag in Bangor. (Record review on next page.)

On October 29 there will be a Right to Life Convention in Portland. Plans for disrupting this event will be hashed over @ Oct 22 MLF meeting. Meeting will be from 9-5 at the Holiday Inn in Portland. NOW plans to picket at 11:00 am. / 0 0 0 0 0 ) 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Pre-registration material at Oct. 22 meeting.

### Sense of Space

I am a lesbian  
 which means I open myself to  
 my feelings, my senses, my attractions  
 It means I center to feel  
 my needs & wants  
 It means I work to find  
 my place my niche  
 I am a lesbian  
 and that means  
 I've found womanspace  
 is where I'm at  
 I smile alot

I am a lesbian  
 which means  
 trees shelter me  
 sun warms my body  
 wind reds my cheeks  
 I am a lesbian  
 which means  
 I grow food  
 and pray  
 I am a feminist  
 which means  
 I am a social healer  
 I am a lesbian  
 which means I love you

### A Bear

I wrote this poem when I came out.  
 I was feeling the pieces of my life come  
 together, feeling my self come  
 together with the knowledge of where I was at.  
 I wouldn't express it quite this way now,  
 but it still has relevancy to me in  
 that it is an expression of my realization.  
 andy bear



Mother Goddess of Dawn

She that grand dame of the universe

Star brightened echoes

Flowing in her hair

Sparkling synapses of energy

Bequeathing jewels of love

She that hostess of creation

Sweeping under chairs and beds

Packing up the silver medals of the night

Awarding blue to the early morning sky

Conferring red ribbons and yellow sashes

She the dawn of all light

Looking for traces of night

Searching out shadows of darkness

Chasing black edges out of hiding

Clinging to the corridors of western light

She the shining aura of orgasms

Filtering through the cobwebs of dank dark prisons

Featuring the ultimate prisms of rainbow freedom

Waking up the slumbering mountain they call woman

Peeking from the rose tipped windows of dawn.

Sipsis

\* \* \*

There was a time when you were not a slave, remember that. You walked alone, full of laughter, you bathed bare-bellied. You say you have lost all recollection of it, remember. The wild roses flower in the woods. Your hand is torn on the bushes gathering the mulberries and strawberries you refresh yourself with. You run to catch the young hares that you flay with stones from the rocks to cut them up and eat all hot and bleeding. You know how to avoid meeting a bear on the track. You know the winter fear when you hear the wolves gathering. But you can remain seated for hours in the treetops to await morning. You say there are no words to describe this time, you say it does not exist. But remember. Make an effort to remember. Or, failing that, invent.

Monique Wittig

Les Guerilleres



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 22- MLF meeting in Washington  
 Nov. 12+13- PTF and MLF meeting in Bar Harbor.  
 Nov. 5- Orono dance, either at the MCA on College Ave. or in the chapel across the street.  
 FLO'S every second and fourth wednesday.

PLEASE send your thoughts any interesting information that you wish to share, to the Newsletter crew, c/o Andy Bear, College of the Atlantic Bar Harbor, 04609. Get all material to us by Nov 3 at the latest!

MORE NOTICES:

Need places for people to stay in Bar Harbor during the weekend of the November meeting. Please let me know if you have any room. Andy Bear, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor.

FOR SALE: 8 cu. ft. refrigerator in good condition- 40 dollars. Also a small 4 burner gas stove in good condition- 40 dollars. Paige Bridgens, P.O.Box 200, Bucksport. Phone: 567-3198.

I am looking for a house or apartment to share in the Augusta or environs; possibly for a month, hopefully longer. Let me know of anything! Jennifer West, General Delivery, Ellsworth, Maine 04605. Phone 667-9425.

Lesbian cat needs home for the winter. She's desperate. Contact Mary or Jean in Bangor at 942-4939.

The Free Women's Herald needs new feminist energy in all aspects of its production. For those interested in helping it to continue and grow there will be a get together November 19 at 2pm at UMPG's Student Union, 92 Bedford St. Portland. There will be a potluck supper afterwards. Call 774-7574 or 737-4949 for more info or write: Free Women's Herald, Box 7232, Portland, 04112.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Hoping that our newsletter gets passed around, we're enclosing this subscription form for new members as well as for old who somehow lost contact.

Enclosing \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Will send \$ when I can \_\_\_\_\_ Don't want newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

MLF

Mail to Diana Fish, Rt. 1, Box 18, Orrington, ME 04474.



A. BEAR

p.s. Thanks very much to Wise Women for the record to review. It is great and you are great. Thanks for being together.

888888888888

\*\*\*\*\*

If you feel you are at all interested in exploring this subject, please give me a call, Donna Jones, at 725-2519 (keep trying to get through) or Eunice Steiger at 549-5751.

[illegible]

Open- Workshops???

Directions: Take Rt. 117 towards Washington. At the intersection of 17 and Rt. 220 go toward Walderboro on 220. Within 1 mile turn onto 126. Couple of miles down go over a small bridge. Then there will be a house on the right with a decorative well out front. Take next right after driveway to red garage doors. Rhody Hinks' house is less than 1 mile down the road on the left.